

- (b) an HIV Nef protein or a mutant thereof linked to an HIV Tat protein a mutant thereof; or
- (c) an HIV Nef protein or a mutant thereof linked to an HIV Tat protein a mutant thereof and a fusion partner,
in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

33. A composition as claimed in claim 32, comprising a Tat-Nef fusion protein or a mutant thereof.

34. A composition as claimed in claim 32, comprising a Nef-Tat fusion protein or a mutant thereof.

35. A composition according to claim 32, wherein the Tat protein is a mutated Tat protein.

36. A composition according to claim 32, wherein the Nef protein is a mutated Nef protein.

54. (Twice Amended) A protein comprising an HIV Tat protein or a mutant thereof linked to an HIV Nef protein or a mutant thereof in Nef-Tat or Tat-Nef orientation.

REMARKS

Claims 32-77 are pending in this application. Claims 55-77 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 32-54 have been rejected. Claims 32-36 and 54 have been amended. Support for the amendment can be found at page 3, lines 6-9 of the specification. Claims 32-36 and 54 have been amended for the following reasons:

claims 32-36 and 54 - to delete the "immunogenic derivative" language and to add the language "mutant" instead.